

Message

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Sent: 1/31/2017 3:46:37 PM
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Subject: USS Lead - Press

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http://www.nwtimes.com/news/local/lake/epa-begins-superfund-groundwater-study-early/article_98bc63ae-e38b-5d50-86f3-c11e9f65fa14.html
 EPA begins Superfund groundwater study early

- Sarah Reese sarah.reese@nwi.com, (219) 933-3351
- Jan 30, 2017 Updated 12 hrs ago EAST CHICAGO — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has started an evaluation of groundwater at the USS Lead Superfund site earlier than initially anticipated, officials said Saturday.

EPA began excavating lead-and arsenic-contaminated soil last summer in two of the three residential cleanup zones at the Superfund site, which was divided into two operating units. All three zones are in an area called operating unit 1.

A 2012 record of decision called for groundwater to be studied as part of the next phase of remedial work at operating unit 2, which includes the former USS Lead factory site at 5300 Kennedy Ave.

USS Lead stored some waste in a corrective action management unit on the former factory site during a cleanup under EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act program. The factory site and residential areas to the north subsequently were added to the Superfund list in April 2009.

The record of decision called for a study of groundwater during remediation of operating unit 2. That work was not scheduled to begin until after cleanup in the residential areas was completed.

However, EPA began evaluation of groundwater several months ago, project manager Timothy Drexler said Saturday after a meeting at the old Carrie Gosch Elementary School.

A hydrologist has been assigned to the study, and the work is ongoing despite suspension of excavation for the winter, he said.

EPA had enough information from previous testing to decide to move ahead with the groundwater study, Drexler said. The previous testing data came, in part, from several wells near the CAMU on the USS Lead site, he said.

Sincerely,

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